



# Ø BEAT

COLO. SPRINGS,  
COLORADO

JANUARY 1967

## CW CONTEST SLATED FOR MEETING

### CLUB DECLINES CONVENTION OFFER

Members of the PPRAA will have the chance to show off their CW ability at the January meeting on the 11th at the Red Cross Building---the "main order of business" will be a CW contest, with sending both by hand and by machine.

It is hoped that Wally Rowland, KØWMD, will be on hand, barring illness in his family, to help with the hand sending. The machine sending will be by courtesy of the local Naval Reserve facility, which is loaning the club a machine for use that evening.

A prize will be on hand for the winner of the contest, in addition to the regular door prize attractions for the meeting.

Max Main, WØBDH, PPRAA president, stated that since much of the evening will be devoted to the contest, little other business will be conducted.

There will probably be, however, some discussion of the club auction to be held at the February meeting.

Members of the PPRAA who attended the meeting in December decided to decline the invitation of Carl Smith, director of the Rocky Mountain Division, ARRL, to stage another division convention in Colorado Springs in 1967.

The unanimous decision at the meeting was based on two factors:

It was felt that attempting another convention so soon after the one in 1966 might result in one of "below par" quality which would take the edge off the very successful 1966 convention.

It was also felt that the tremendous amount of work involved in staging another convention this year could be better applied to building up the activities of the club itself.

Club Pres. Max Main, WØBDH, announced that as the result of the decision, steps would be taken soon to appoint various committees from club members to start action on various club projects for 1967, in order to get club projects for the year started.

## SIDE BANDS -

According to word received from "nip" Nepple, formerly WØ-CUG, and one of the "old timers" in the PPRAA, now living in Douglas, Ariz., he has been reissued the call of W7JMQ which he held for six years while previously a resident of that area. Nip says he has a nice home in a good radio location with a very big backyard which has plenty of room for antennas, "also a nice place to fly my birds." Nip's address is 1400 - 20th St., Douglas, Ariz., 85607.

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Ida Keller, who recently got her general license as WAØNTA, bids fair to be getting a different kind of license "ere many moons have passed." If the diamond on her finger seems to be blinking CW, it's because it was put there by the PPRAA's vice president, Pete Demario, KØUDG. They expect to make it another family in the PPRAA next May or June. (Maybe some day they'll even beat the Lewis family.)

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The column "Getting to Know You" has been discontinued due to lack of any more information with which to prepare biographies of PPRAA members. Renewal of the column depends on receiving of more information from seeming bashful members.

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John Felix, KØSLN, gave his new homebrew rig a smoke test recently. No smoke, but a 589 report from Virginia.

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Wally Rowland, KØWMD, has a new Drake line at his QTH.

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Hal Kirlin, WØAJA (ex-K7HKD) spent a few days with his cousin

## PPRAA MEMBERS CONTACT SANTA CLAUS FOR YOUNGSTERS

Members of the PPRAA brightened the Christmas Season for the children at St. Francis Hospital when they provided the communications for the children to talk with Santa Claus.

Members taking part were: Eldon Lewis, WAØERA, Rosie Lewis, WAØMNL, John Felix, KØSLN, and the "star" of the show, John Summers Jr., WAØHHO, alias Santa.

SLN taped the affair and the tape was later played over one of the local radio stations.

For awhile it was feared that the Santa Net might go up in smoke. About the time communications got under way an AREC alert was called by George Kowalski, WØGCH, to provide assistance at a fire in the northwest part of the city. Dan Remey, KØKXO, provided assistance at the fire with his mobile rig.

Eldon Lewis, WAØERA, and family. While there he built an electronic keyer for Rosie, WAØMNL. Hal, formerly of Cheyenne, Wyo., now resides at Stuart, Iowa.

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Frank Craw, WØHWH, the editor of Ø Beat, is still publishing "with difficulties"---his IBM electric typewriter is still "backshopped." Hopes to be putting out the paper at home ere long instead of spending after hours at his office getting it out on a typewriter there.

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Any PPRAA members who received the low frequency radio set (SRR11) through Air Force MARS, and are having trouble can contact Max Main, WØBDH. He has the tech manual on this equipment which gives all the necessary information on the set. He states he'll be glad to help any and all.

## = Ø BEAT =

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The PPRAA meets on the second Wednesday of each month, starting at 8 p.m. in the Red Cross Bldg., 1600 N. Cascade Ave.

## NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

About this time of the year we all start making New Year's resolutions (even though we may not have used up half of the ones we made the previous year.

Being in a helpful mood, may we make a few suggestions for the members of the PPRAA?

A resolution to attend more PPRAA meetings and take a more active part in the activities of the club.

A resolution to further the cause of Ham Radio by more participation in public service activities during emergencies and other times which call for the services of amateur radio.

A resolution to strive for the utmost in proper operating procedures and the elimination of any kind of interference in operating.

A resolution to try to interest more hams and would-be hams in the PPRAA and increase the membership of the organization.

A resolution to, by deeds or word of mouth, to further acquaint the general public with the part played by amateur radio.

And of course--a resolution to get more material to the editor of Ø Beat.

With that, we hope that every member of the PPRAA gets all the ham equipment desired this year.

## PPRAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres. - Max Main - WØBDH  
Vice. Pres. - Pete Demario - KØUDG  
Secty. - Bill Kraft - W7CMU/Ø  
Treas. - Ed Pompea - KØZPG

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John Summers Sr. - WAØHHN  
Harlan Talley - KØUIG  
Wally Rowland - KØWMD  
George Kowalski - WØGCH

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## TEN ELECTRO-

## COMMANDMENTS

For the benefit of those interested in electronics design, development, and just tinkering, take heed, for the cost of disobeying may be high.

1. Beware the lightning that lurketh in an undischarged condenser lest it cause thee to bounce upon thy head in a most ungentlemanly manner.

2. Cause thou the switch that supplieth large quantities of juice to be opened and thusly tagged that thy days may be long in this earthly vale of tears.

3. Prove to thyself that all circuits that radiateth and upon which thou worketh are grounded and thusly tagged lest they lift thee to radio frequency potential and cause thee to act as a radiator also.

4. Tarry not amongst those fools who engage in intentional shocks for they are not long for this world.

5. Take care that thou useth the proper method when thou takest the measure of a high voltage circuit so that thou dost not incinerate both thee and thy test meter.

6. Take care you tamperest not with interlocks and safety devices.

7. Work thee not on energized equipment for if thou dost

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## TWO METER BEACON

By WA6PHR

A remote signal beacon is very useful during alignment, antenna checks and other amateur testing. This simple low cost two meter beacon uses a cheap eight mc crystal and very little else. It can be heard about half a mile away, using one ma at 1.5 volts, or the input can be reduced for closer work.

The entire unit can be built with one octal socket and a small terminal strip. The socket will hold the FT 243 crystal, the transistor can be placed in the hole and the unused terminals can be used as tie points. Make the RF leads short.

R1 will be from 20k to 250k depending on the transistor you use. Adjust R1 for 0.2 to 1 ma collector current. Most low leakage transistors that will oscillate above 8 ma will work. The emitter tap should be at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  turn above ground.

When you've finished building the beacon, moni-

tor the collector current and pull out the crystal. If there is a change in current, the circuit is oscillating properly. Then look for the 18th harmonic of the crystal on two meters. It should be quite strong. Adjust C1 for maximum signal.

I even tried the beacon at 9 volts and 10 ma connected to my beam. I worked three stations on CW! But if operated at 1.5 volts with less than 0.3 ma, battery life should be virtually the shelf life.

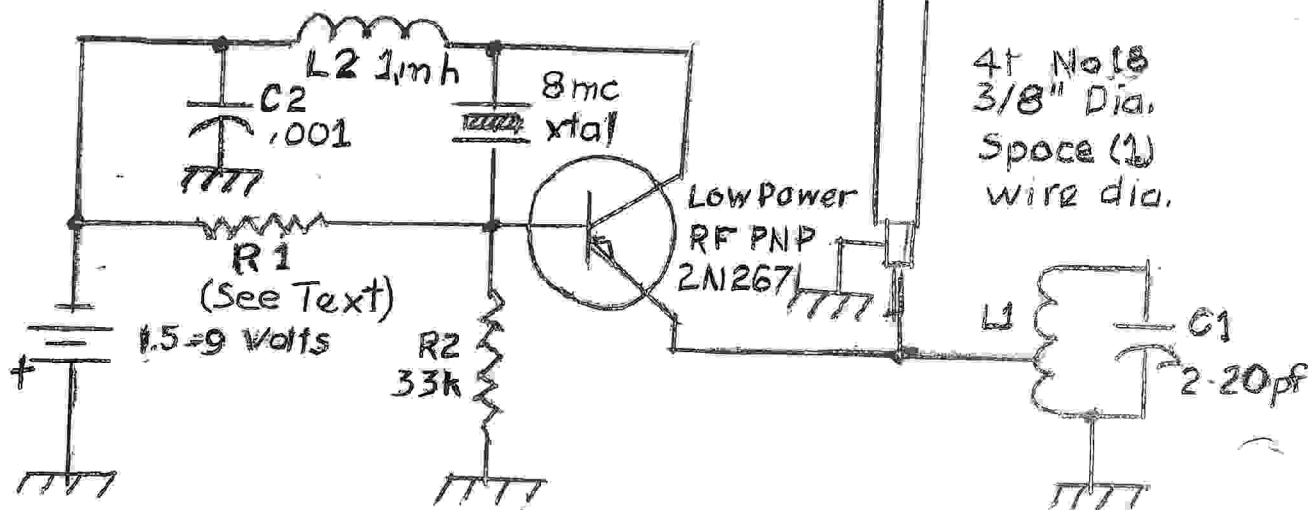
(Editor's note)

WAØLUB, who submitted this article through Rosie, WAØMNL, added the following information:

I have built this unit on a printed circuit board and used a 2N2084 for the 2N2671. After testing the unit, it was discovered that the harmonics

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By Rosemarie Lewis, WAØMNL

"Twas the day after Christmas  
Thru the Lewis Ham shack,  
The rigs were a 'whirling'  
With a clickety clack.

The antennas were hung  
By DGL with care,  
In hopes some rare DX  
Soon would be there.

MNM was all nestled  
Sung in her bed,  
Visions of a turn at the rig  
Danced in her head.

MNL at her keyer,  
ERA on sideband phone  
Had just settled down  
For a QSO - each his own.

When out on the bands  
There arose such a clatter  
They sprang from the shack  
To see what was the matter.

Away to the living room  
They flew like a flash,  
To find the full reason  
For the big QRM crash.

When what to their  
Wondering eyes did appear,  
But Jerry, age eleven,  
The young son so dear,

Who was the driver,  
So lively and quick,  
Of a road racer set  
Left by St. Nick.

#### OSCAR NOTES

(From Palo Alto Club PARAGRAPHS  
via the Central Calif. Radio  
Council CIRCLE)

The Project OSCAR group reports that OSCAR 3 is permanently inoperative in a 500 miles high circular orbit in which it will remain for many years,

#### BEACON

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of the 8 mc crystal was also transmitted. The range was about 25 feet with a 9 volt source.

To try to eliminate the harmonics, the output was taken from other points, but no improvement was made. By putting a band pass filter in line with the antenna output, the harmonics should be suppressed.

To modulate the unit, a high impedance source connected in either battery lead will work.

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#### ELECTRO-COMMANDMENTS:

(Continued from Page 3)  
so thy fellow hams will be buying presents for thy widow and consoling her.

8. Verily, I say unto thee, never service equipment alone for electrical cooking is sometimes a slothful process and thou might sizzle upon thy own fat upon a hot circuit for hours on end before thy Maker sees fit to end thy misery and drag thee into His fold.

9. Trifle not with radioactive tubes and substances lest the commence to glow in the dark, like a lightning bug.

10. Commit thou to memory all the works of the prophets which are written down in the chapters of thy Bible which is the manual which giveth out with the straight dope.

-O-O-O-

Next unit to fly will be the DJ4ZC package, some time in 1967. It will be similar to OSCAR 3, but more sensitive; very high transmitting current will not be required. Input frequency will be 144.1 MHz and output will be 145.9 MHz. With this much advance warning, anyone who wants

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## OSCAR

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will be able to get the soldering irons out and start your OSCAR 5 setup. Operating techniques will be similar to those of a DX contest on the lower bands. If your

CW skills are rusty, some routine operation on 20 or 40 meter CW might be in order. Orbit will be about 500 miles. Passes will be in range of your station 5 or 6 times a day for duration of a few minutes up to a maximum of about 15 minutes each.

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